

April 22, 1939.

Circular Letter No. 189

To : Superintendents of Schools, Principals, and High School English Teachers.

Re : UNIVERSITY REQUEST FOR EMPHASIS ON ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Department of Education desires to bring about closer coordination between the teaching of English in the high schools and the freshman English courses in the University of Puerto Rico. Dr. Frederick O. Bissell, Head of the Department of English at the University, has sent the following list of fundamental points which pupils intending to enter the University should have mastered:

1. Recognition of a sentence
 - (a) Comma fault and period fault.
2. Knowledge of the parts of speech.
3. Understanding of sentence elements.
4. Knowledge of the tenses and conjugation of verbs.

All of these topics are included in the grammar units suggested in the tentative outline for the guidance of teachers of English in the elementary and secondary schools. Nevertheless, we should like to call the attention of teachers to the necessity of providing sufficient drill for these topics. Please make every possible endeavor to have pupils master these points.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) JOSE M. GALLARDO
Commissioner of Education